

Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1, 12, 19, 23, 30, 32, and 34. Please amend Claims 2, 5, 7-9, 13, 16-18, 20, 24, 26, 28-29, 31, 35, and 37. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[1]] 13 wherein the communications include at least one source address in a message.
3. (Original) The method according to Claim 2 wherein the source address includes an IP address.
4. (Original) The method according to Claim 2 wherein a unique identification number is included in the message.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[1]] 13 wherein monitoring includes distinguishing between communications affected by and not affected by network address translation.
6. (Original) The method according to Claim 5 wherein distinguishing includes comparing an apparent source address of a message against an actual source address provided in the message.
7. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[1]] 13 further comprising assessing a range of network addresses behind the translating device.
8. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[1]] 13 further comprising assessing a range of public network addresses associated with the translating device.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 13 further comprising distinguishing between active and passive clients.
10. (Original) The method according to Claim 9 further including directing a message from a passive client to an active client.
11. (Original) The method according to Claim 9 further including, from a processor beyond the translating device, causing a message to a passive client to be redirected to an active client, the active client responsively communicating with the processor beyond the translating device.
12. (Cancelled)
13. (Currently Amended) A method of determining a network topology induced by network address translation, comprising:
initiating communications, from a server behind a translating device, which effect the network address translation;
monitoring the communications beyond the translating device to infer partitioning of servers behind the translating device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation, maintaining at least one translated address set, and ~~The method according to Claim 12 wherein monitoring further includes~~ comparing apparent message source addresses with addresses in the translated address set.
14. (Original) The method according to Claim 13 further including merging translated address sets in response to determining that multiple apparent source addresses in distinct translated address sets correspond to the same actual source address.
15. (Original) The method according to Claim 13 further including assessing whether the source address is behind a known address translation device.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim ~~[[12]]~~ 13 ~~wherein maintaining includes further comprising~~ providing a timeout mechanism for removing an address from a translated address set.
17. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to Claim 1 further including~~ A method of determining a network topology induced by network address translation, comprising:
 - initiating communications, from a server behind a translating device, which effect the network address translation;
 - monitoring the communications beyond the translating device to infer partitioning of servers behind the translating device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation; and
 - commanding a new client to contact a known client behind the same network address translation device.
18. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to Claim 1 wherein~~ A method of determining a network topology induced by network address translation, comprising:
 - initiating communications, from a server behind a translating device, which effect the network address translation;
 - monitoring the communications beyond the translating device to infer partitioning of servers behind the translating device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation; and
 - ~~monitoring includes~~ providing a soft-state mechanism to occasionally refresh partitioning.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to Claim ~~[[19]]~~ 24 wherein the messages received include at least one source address in the message.

21. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 20 wherein the processor routine compares an apparent source address of a message against an actual source address provided in the message.
22. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 20 further including at least one translated address set, the source address being stored in the translated address set.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to be located behind a network address translation device for determining a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, comprising:
 - a processor coupled to a network interface for receiving communication from a network device effecting network address translation and further coupled to memory;
 - a processor routine operating on the processor, the processor routine to infer partitioning of servers behind a network address translation device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation and to store a database of translated address sets in the memory; and

~~The apparatus according to Claim 23 wherein the processor routine includes~~
a database manager to compare apparent message source addresses with addresses stored in the database of translated address sets.
25. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 24 wherein the database manager provides a timeout mechanism for removing translated addresses from the translated address sets in the database.
26. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to be located behind a network address translation device for providing communications used to determine a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, comprising:

a processor behind a network address translation device coupled to a network interface and to memory, the processor initiating communications to a server beyond the network address translation device to effect network address translation; ~~and~~

a processor routine operating on said processor, said processor routine providing the actual network address of the processor in a message of the communications unaffected by the network address translation; and

a processor routine storing a database of translated address sets in the memory.

27. (Original) The apparatus according to Claim 26 wherein said processor issues communications in response to receiving a communication from behind the network address translation device.
28. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising:
 - a computer usable medium for storing data; and
 - a set of computer program instructions embodied on the computer usable medium, including instructions to:
 - receive communications from a network device effecting network address translation; ~~and~~
 - infer partitioning of servers behind a network address translation device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation ;
 - store a database of translated address sets; and
 - compare apparent message source addresses with addresses stored in the database of translated address sets.
29. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for determining a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, comprising:
 - means for initiating communications, from a server behind a translating device,
 - ~~from a network~~ which effects effect the network address translation; ~~and~~

means for monitoring the ~~communication~~ communications beyond the translating device to infer partitioning of servers behind a ~~network address translation device~~ the translating device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation;

means for maintaining at least one translated address set; and

means for comparing apparent message source addresses with addresses in the translated address set.

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to Claim 30 wherein the messages received include~~ In a network device beyond a network address translation device, a method for determining a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, the method comprising:

receiving communication messages, including at least one source address in the message, from a network device effecting network address translation;

inferring partitioning of servers behind a network address translation device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation; and

comparing an apparent source address of a message against an actual source address provided in the message.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Original) The method according to Claim 31 further including maintaining at least one translated address set, the source address being stored in the translated address set.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently Amended) In a network device beyond a network address translation device, a method for determining a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, the method comprising:
receiving communication messages from a network device effecting network address translation;
inferring partitioning of servers behind a network address translation device into equivalence sets relative to the network topology induced by the network address translation;
storing a database of translated address sets; and
~~The method according to Claim 34 further including~~ comparing apparent message source addresses with addresses stored in the database of translated address sets.
36. (Original) The method according to Claim 35 further including removing translated addresses from the translated address sets in the database after exceeding a timeout duration.
37. (Currently Amended) In a network device located behind a network address translation device, a method for providing communications used to determine a topology of a network in the presence of network address translation, the method comprising:
initiating communications to a server beyond a network address translation device to effect network address translation; ~~and~~
providing the actual network address of a processor, behind the network address translation device, in a message of the communications unaffected by the network address translation; and
storing a database of translated address sets in the memory.
38. (Original) The method according to Claim 37 further including issuing communications in response to receiving a communication from behind the network address translation device.